

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1709
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2001
INTERCEPTION OF HIGH SPEED BOAT
GADDE RAMAMOCHAN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any high speed boats, being used by insurgent groups operating in tandem in India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka for arms and narcotic drugs running through sea lines in the Bay of Bengal, has recently been intercepted;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these groups are helping extremists in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to check their activities?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): The Coast Guard/Navy have no information about apprehension of any such high-speed boats being used by insurgent groups and their nexus with extremists in Andhra Pradesh. Any vessel/boat found infringing our EEZ is investigated and appropriate action is taken by Coast Guard/Navy. Both Coast Guard and Indian Navy maintain regular surveillance in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone to prevent the movement of arms/ammunitions, illegal immigrants and trans-border crime through sea-routes besides undertaking anti-poaching, anti-smuggling activities.